



# TRANSCRIPT REPORT

Date: July 7, 2005

Agenda item No: 5

Council Action Date: July 15, 2005

**To: CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE CALIFORNIA VETERANS BOARD**  
**From: SANDRA MUÑOZ, EXECUTIVE OFFICER**  
**Subject: APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

## **RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Approve the minutes of the regular meeting of May 20, 2005.

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George G. Sinopoli  
Chairman



# **CALIFORNIA VETERANS BOARD MINUTES GENERAL SESSION MEETING #677**



**Chairman George Sinopoli**

**Board Members:**

**Leo Burke, Vice Chairman  
Dr. Vernon Chong**

**Col James C. Crump, Jr. USAF (Ret)  
William D. Jackson**

**May 20, 2005**

The California Veterans Board met in regular session in the Veterans Home-Barstow in Building F, 100 East Veterans Parkway, Barstow, at 9:00 a.m.

## **ROLL CALL**

Present: Board Members George G. Sinopoli Chairman, Leo P. Burke Vice-Chairman, Vernon Chong Member, James C. Crump Jr. Member, and William D. Jackson Member.

Absent: None

Chairman Sinopoli presided.

## **CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS (CDVA)**

Present: Thomas Johnson, Secretary. Robert Wilson, Deputy Secretary Chief Counsel

## **INVOCATION**

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

## **WELCOMING REMARKS**

Gloria Darling, Mayor ProTem  
John Weininger, Assistant to Congressman Joe Baca  
Louis Koff, Administrator  
Introductions of California Veterans Board Members  
Audience Introductions

## **CLOSED SESSION REPORT**

There was no Closed Session.

## **CALIFORNIA VETERANS BOARD CONSENT ITEMS**

### **1. MINUTES**

Executive Officer: Sandra Muñoz

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

Approve the minutes of the regular meetings of May 20, 2005

Debate was held:

Board Member Crump motioned corrections of name and title Board Member James Crump.

Board member Jackson moved to approve March 20, 2005 Minutes. Board Member Burke seconded. The vote was as follows.

AYES: Board Member Crump, Chong, Burke, Jackson, and Sinopoli

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Chairman declared the motion carried.

### **2. POSTPONED REPORT BY DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS (CDVA)**

a. Review of Proposed Rulemaking on eligibility for burial in a State Veteran's Cemetery.

Discussion was held:

Secretary Tom Johnson, read state veteran cemetery definition and person's eligibility for burial.

Board Member Chong participated in discussion.

b. Review of Land Use at Veterans Homes.

Receive and file the following:

Letter April 12, 2005 Land Use.

Discussion was held:

Secretary Tom Johnson. Board member Crump, Chong and Jackson participated in discussion.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Vote yes to endorse proposed CDVA Policy for Appropriate Use of Land at next board meeting.

Discussion was held:

Secretary Thomas Johnson requested the Board consider endorsing CDVA Policy for Appropriate Use of Land.

Board member Burke moved to endorse CDVA Policy for the appropriate use of land, which will ensure and carry out in the best interest of the Veterans Homes. Board member Crump seconded. The vote was as follows.

AYES: Board member Crump, Chong, Burke, Jackson, Sinopoli

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Chairman declared the motion carried.

c. Review of hiring veteran's preference at CDVA

Discussion was held:

Secretary Thomas Johnson. Reference to Military & Veterans Code Section 80. Will be developing an Administrative Policy. 80% of Governor's appointees are veterans. 10.5% overall of the department are veterans. General population in California is 6.7% are veterans; 35.4 million in California are veterans according to the department of finance. USVA 26% staff are veterans.

d. Should the general fund costs of handling and processing the estates of deceased members of Veterans Homes be recovered from the estates, which by law are required to be paid into the Morale, Welfare, and Recreation Funds (formerly "Post Funds" now MWRP) at the Veterans Homes?

Discussion was held:

Secretary Thomas Johnson, Dr. David Salopek, Allied Counsel Yountville, Board Member Crump, Joseph Ferreri, Allied Counsel Chula Vista, Board Member Jackson.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Postpone motion until Board reviews Administrative Policy and clarify the actual cost of Processing estates

### **4. NEW BUSINESS CONSENT ITEMS**

Receive and file the following:

Resolution on Federal Budget Cuts on Aid to State Veterans Homes.

Resolution located at [www.cdva.ca.gov/board](http://www.cdva.ca.gov/board).

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Board Member Burke moved to approve and adopt Resolution. Seconded by Board Member Jackson. The vote was as follows:

AYES: Board member Crump, Chong, Burke, Jackson, Sinopoli

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Chairman declared the motion carried.

### **5. REPORT OF BOARD MEMBERS SELECT COMMITTEES AND ACTIVITIES**

Board Member Crump, reported on budget committee  
Board Member Burke, reported on legislative committee  
Board Member Jackson, reported on activities  
Board Member Chong, reported on activities  
Board Member Sinopoli, reported on activities

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Accept legislative select committee report and recommendations as read.

No discussion was held

Board member Burke moved to approve and accept legislative report. Board Member Crump seconded. The vote was as follows:

AYES: Board member Crump, Chong, Burke, Jackson, Sinopoli

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Chairman declared the motion carried.

Discussion by Board Member Crump regarding HR 1742.  
located at [www.cdva.ca.gov](http://www.cdva.ca.gov). Help Preserve the Cal-Vet Program.

## **6. CDVA VETERANS HOMES DIVISION**

Reports by:

Deputy Secretary Veterans Homes Bill Parente, effective March 2005 Barstow successfully passed re-certification in the participation in Medicaid Program.

Secretary Tom Johnson, joint project between the Veterans Home of Yountville and the city of Yountville regarding the reconstruction refurbishment of the Pool at the Veterans Home Yountville and on the Lincoln Theatre flag issue.

## **7. FARM AND HOME DIVISION**

Report by:

Secretary Tom Johnson on new bill to replace HR 1742 and CDVA and on Marketing Division.

## **8. VETERANS SERVICES DIVISION**

Report by:

Secretary Tom Johnson, November 11, 2005 Opening on target for the Northern California Redding Cemetery and new Cemetery Manager awaiting appointment from the Governor. Successful roundtable homeless seminar. Fresno land transfers on target July 8 Public Works Board Agenda.

## **9. LEGAL DIVISION**

Report by:

Deputy Secretary Chief Counsel Robert Wilson.

## **10 HEARING ON APPEALS**

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Board member Crump moved to accept Byron Holtzclaw and Westley Johnson reschedule appeal until September 23, 2005, Board Meeting. Seconded by Board Member Burke. The vote was as follows.

AYES: Board member Crump, Chong, Burke, Jackson, Sinopoli

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Chairman declared the motion carried.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Board Member Crump moved to deny appeal by Robert L. Davis (05-02). Seconded by Board Member Burke. The vote was as follows:

AYES: Board member Crump, Chong, Burke, Jackson, Sinopoli

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Chairman declared the motion carried.

## **11. PUBLIC COMMENTS -Three Minute Limit Board Policy Prohibits Response From Board Members**

Jesse J. Morales  
John Coffey  
Harry Hitton  
David Salopek  
Bruce Thiesen

**ADJOURNED at 11:20 a.m.**

### **FUTURE MEETING DATES AND LOCATIONS:**

All meetings take place on Friday unless notified.

Next board meeting **July 15, 2005 Redding**

Yearly schedule is posted on web site: [www.cdva.ca.gov/board](http://www.cdva.ca.gov/board)

**CLOSED SESSION** (if necessary or required)

The general reason or reasons for a closed session, and the specific statutory authority therefore, are (1) to consider the appointment or employment of a public employee under the authority of Section 11126(a) of the Government Code; and (2) to confer with or receive advice from the Board's legal counsel regarding pending litigation under the authority of Section 11126(E)(2)(A), (2)(B), and (3) of the Government Code.

These minutes are posted to the California Department of Veterans Affairs on-line website at [www.cdva.ca.gov/board](http://www.cdva.ca.gov/board)